

## Remarks

The Examiner has rejected claims 14 and 17 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Oliver. With regard to claim 14, the Examiner states that Oliver discloses an apparatus that comprises a transmitter 30 “for converting electrical information input signals received from a camera to an optical output signal...and a housing for holding the transmitter...and adapted for mounting to a camera. With regard to claim 17, the Examiner states that Oliver teaches a receiver 26 “for converting an optical input signal to electrical information output signal...and wherein the housing is further adapted for holding the receiver...”

In response, the Applicant has amended independent claim 14 and offers the following remarks. As amended, claim 14 is not anticipated by Oliver at least because Oliver does not disclose a connector for coupling said transmitter directly to a fiber optic cable.

The Examiner rejected claims 18 and 20-25 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Baker. With regard to independent claim 18, the Examiner states that Baker discloses “a system comprising: a camera-mountable optical transceiver 24...for transmitting a downstream optical signal...and for receiving an upstream optical signal...; a remote optical transceiver 22...for transmitting the upstream optical signal...and for receiving the downstream optical signal...; a fiber optic cable 30...coupled between the camera-mountable optical transceiver 24 and the remote transceiver 22...for carrying the downstream...and upstream...optical signals.”

In response, the Applicant has amended claim 18 and offers the following remarks. As amended, Baker does not anticipate the invention of claim 18 at least because Baker does not

disclose a connector for coupling the fiber optic cable directly to the transceiver.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1, 3-14, and 26-27 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Desmons. Specifically, the Examiner states that Desmons discloses a transceiver for providing an interface between a camera 10 and a fiber optic cable 1 that comprises a transmitter 11 for coupling between the camera and the fiber optic cable and adapted for converting an electrical information input signal received from the camera to an optical output signal; a receiver for coupling between the fiber optic cable and the camera and adapted for converting an optical input signal received from the fiber cable to an electrical information output signal. The Examiner states that Desmons does not disclose a housing for holding the transmitter and the receiver and adapted for mounting the camera.

In response, the Applicant has amended independent claims 1, 14 and 26 and offers the following remarks. As amended, claims 1, 14 and 26 are patentable over Desmons at least because Desmons does not disclose a connector for coupling the fiber optic cable directly to the transceiver.

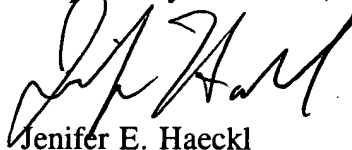
The Examiner also rejected claims 2, 15-16 and 19 as being unpatentable over Desmons (2), Oliver (15-16), and Baker (19) in view of other additional cited references. Although the amendments to the independent claims overcome these rejections as well, the Applicant offers the following additional remarks with regard to these references. Desmons, Oliver, and Baker teach away from the claimed invention because they require remote power sources. For example, both Desmons and Baker expressly utilize triaxial cables that are one of the problems or concerns with the prior art that the subject invention overcomes.

“A prior art reference may be considered to teach away from an invention when a person of ordinary skill, upon reading a reference, would be discouraged from following the path set out

in the reference, or would be led in a direction divergent from the path that was taken by the applicant.” Monarch Knitting Machinery Corp. v. Sulzer Morat GmbH, 45 U.S.P.Q.2d 1977, 1984 (Fed. Cir. 1998). References that teach away from the modifying the prior art cannot create a prima facie case of obviousness. McGinley v. Franklin Sports, Inc., 60 U.S.P.Q.2d 1001, 1009 (Fed. Cir. 2001), citing, In re Gurley, 27 F.3d 551, 553, 31 U.S.P.Q.2d 1131, 1132 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

If for any reason this Response is found to be incomplete, or if at any time it appears that a telephone conference with counsel would help advance prosecution, please telephone the undersigned in Worcester, Massachusetts at (508) 791-8500.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Haeckl", written over the printed name.

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